

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 25, 2002

The Honorable Christine Whitman
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

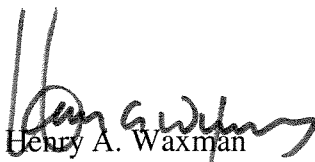
Dear Administrator Whitman:

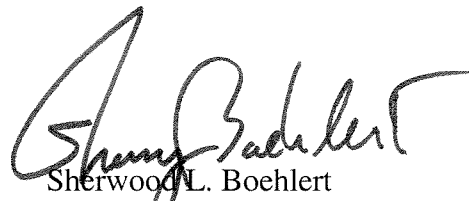
We are writing to urge you not to pursue regulatory changes to the New Source Review (NSR) program of the Clean Air Act in a manner that would result in more emissions from a new or existing pollution source than could occur under today's NSR rules.

Unfortunately, we are concerned that the changes recently announced by EPA would do just that. For example, we oppose changes the Administration has announced which would allow a facility to choose a baseline of emissions that would allow actual pollution to increase dramatically without triggering NSR requirements. Additionally, we are concerned that changing the definition of routine maintenance will jeopardize the important NSR enforcement cases.

Any changes to the NSR rules undertaken by EPA should not allow the air to become dirtier for local communities. Nor should it make it more difficult for states to limit air pollution and to meet tough new standards for fine particulate and ozone pollution. We urge your personal attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress


Sherwood L. Boehlert
Member of Congress

Mary Plunkett

J. L. McHugh

James Greenwood

Wayne T. Gilchrist

Jack Quinn

Louise Morella

Nancy L. Johnson

Chapman Shupe

Peter J. Hancock

John E. Dooney

R. L. Simmons
CT/2

Lee Kelley

David E. Benio

Wm C. Shoo

Jim Luther

Harold D. Jr

Mike Ferguson

Lynn N. Rivers

Tim Maloney Edward J. Markey

Lois Capps Don Geller

J. C. L. Frank Pallone Jr.

Elis L. Engel Dennis J. Kucinich

Earl Blumenfeld Ernie

Tom Allen Jon Lechak

John W. Olver _____
